

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LAGOS 11304 301055Z
ACTION INR-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 /018 W
-----108344 011042Z /14

R 290730Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4040

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 11304

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, PINR, NI
SUBJECT: BIO INFORMATION: BALARABE, ABUBAKAR TAFAWA BALEWA

REF: STATE 224311

1. EMBASSY FILES ON BALARABE ABUBAKAR TAFAWA DELEWA, CHIEF OF PROTOCOL, EA, BEGIN IN 1970 WITH HIS APPOINTMENT AS NIGERIA'S AMBASSADOR TO SENEGAL AND THE GAMBIA. IN 1970 HE ALSO BECAME NIGERIA'S FIRST AMBASSADOR TO MAURITANIA, RESIDENT IN DAKAR, AND IN 1973 WAS APPOINTED SECRETARY-GENERAL TO THE NIGER/ NIGERIAN JOINT COMMISSION. BALEWA'S LAST ASSIGNMENT BEFORE ASSUMING HIS PRESENT JOB WAS AS AMBASSADOR TO NIGER (1974-1976). AS HIS NAME WOULD INDICATE, HE IS A HAUSA FROM NORTHERN NIGERIA.

2. BALEWA HAS PROVED AN IMMENSE IMPROVEMENT OVER HIS TWO IMMEDIATE PREDECESSORS AS PROTOCOL CHIEF. HE IS THOUGHTFUL, DECENT AND SENSITIVE, AND HAS MADE STURDY TRY AT IMPROVING THE RELATIONSHIP OF HIS OFFICE WITH AN OFTEN DISGRUNTLED AND

DISPIRITED DIPLOMATIC CORPS THAT TENDS TO BLAME THE TRIALS AND TRIBULATIONS OF LIVING AND WORKING IN LAGOS ON THE POOR GUY IN THE PROTOCOL OFFICE AT MEA. WHILE BALEWA HAS NOT COME THROUGH ON SOME OF HIS PROMISES (DUTY-FREE SHOP FOR DIPLOMATS, IMPROVED PARKING AT MEA), HE HAS PERFORMED CREDITABLY IN SUCH MAJOR ASSIGNMENTS AS FESTAC, ECOWAS, AND ALL HEAD OF STATE VISITS TO NIGERIA. HIS CLOSENESS TO THE INNER CIRCLE IS EVIDENT FROM THE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LAGOS 11304 301055Z

FACT THAT HE ACCOMPANIES OBASANJO ON VIRTUALLY EVERY TRIP OUTSIDE LAGOS AND TO VIRTUALLY EVERY PUBLIC CEREMONY AT WHICH OBASANJO PERFORMS. DURING THE DARKEST DAYS OF THIS EMBASSY'S CONFRONTATION WITH THE FMG OVER ANGOLAN POLICY, HE WAS INFORMATIVE AND UNDERSTANDING. HE HAS GIVEN US WILLING IF NOT ALWAYS SUBSTANTIAL HELP ON SUCH DIFFICULT BILATERAL ISSUES AS ARBITRARY ARRESTS, AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL REAL ESTATE PROBLEMS, DIPLOMATIC

TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS, ETC.

EASUM

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION, DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 29-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977LAGOS11304
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770358-0792
Format: TEL
From: LAGOS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977099/aaaaagxq.tel
Line Count: 64
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: d4284a4b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION INR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 224311
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1358850
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BIO INFORMATION: BALARABE, ABUBAKAR TAFAWA BALEWA
TAGS: PGOV, PINR, NI, (BALARABE, ABUBAKAR TAFAWA BALEWA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d4284a4b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009